

LA SALLE COLLEGE BASKETBALL 1950-51



PRESS, RADIO and TV INFORMATION

OUR COVER

LaSalle's Bill Gallagher (19) gets a "shot in the head" for his efforts in attempting—with John Grauer—to block Manhattan's Joe Loprete out of the play, on an under-the-basket scrimmage during the Explorers' 65-60 victory over the Jaspers in Madison Square Garden. Looking on are Newt Jones (4) of LaSalle, and Regis King (14) of Manhattan.

Photo: Courtesy of the LASALLE COLLEGIAN

LASALLE COLLEGE

PRESS, RADIO AND TV INFORMATION

1950-1951
Basketball Season

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John J. Kelly, Director



Athletic Director

JAMES J. HENRY

Much of the credit for LaSalle's present prominence in the world of sports can be attributed to James J. Henry, the Explorers' Athletic Director.

Jim came to LaSalle in 1930, following his graduation from Villanova where he was an honorable mention All-American end.

Originally line coach for the football team, and basketball coach, he was named Athletic Director in 1935.

Under Jim, LaSalle's athletic program has expanded both inter-collegiately and intra-murally, with over 1200 students participating in the softball, touch football, basketball, swimming, bowling, and other leagues. Henry was instrumental in adding swimming, golf, tennis, baseball, crew and soccer to the list of organized Explorer sports. Football is the only activity that has been discontinued, due mainly to lack of facilities.

Just to round out a very busy schedule, Jim teaches Finance.

Coach

KENNETH D. LOEFFLER

Coach Ken Loeffler, who deserted the pro ranks to return to his first love, collegiate ball, piloted the Explorers to a National Invitation Tourney bid and the Philadelphia metropolitan championship last year, his first at LaSalle's helm.

A native of Beaver Falls, Pa., where his squad will be meeting Geneva this year, Ken graduated from Penn State in 1924 and started his coaching career at Geneva in 1928. He remained there until 1934, the same year he received his degree in law at the University of Pittsburgh.

In 1935, Loeffler went to Yale for a seven-year hitch as basketball coach, leaving in 1942 for duty in the Army Air Force. When Ken left the AAF as a Major in 1945, he spent a year at Denver U. and, when the old BAA was organized, coached the St. Louis Bombers and Providence Steamrollers.



TEAM ROSTER

NO.	NAME	YR.	AGE	WT.	HT.	PREP SCHOOL
3	Fanning, Matt	Sr.	23	160	5'9"	St. Joseph's, Philadelphia
4	Jones, Newt	Jr.	20	163	6'3"	Northeast, Philadelphia
5	Donnelly, Chas.	Jr.	21	170	5'11"	LaSalle High, Philadelphia
7	Grekin, Norman	Soph.	20	185	6'5"	W. Philadelphia, Philadelphia
8	Carney, Tony	Soph.	19	230	6'7"	St. James, Chester, Pa.
10	Phelan, Jimmy	Sr.	21	175	6'1"	LaSalle High, Philadelphia
11	Iehle, Fred	Soph.	20	178	6'3"	Olney, Philadelphia
12	Haggerty, Jack	Sr.	24	185	6'2"	Ben Franklin, Philadelphia
14	French, Jack	Soph.	20	225	6'7"	LaSalle High, Philadelphia
15	Gillespie, John	Sr.	21	200	6'4"	St. Joseph's, Philadelphia
16	O'Donnell, Jack	Soph.	20	190	6'3"	LaSalle High, Philadelphia
17	George, Johnny	Soph.	20	190	6'2"	St. John's, Washington, D. C.
19	Ley, Fred	Soph.	19	180	6'4"	Stamford High, Stamford, Conn.

Averages: AGE—21

WEIGHT—187

HEIGHT—6'3"

Colors: BLUE AND GOLD

Enrollment: 1500 MEN

Nickname: "EXPLORERS"

Manager: FRANK J. HART

Conducted by the BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS FOUNDED—1863

Uniforms: NAVY BLUE, GOLD LETTERING FOR AWAY GAMES

WHITE WITH BLUE LETTERING AND GOLD TRIM FOR HOME

SCHEDULE 1950-51

TEAM	PLACE	DATE	LAST YEAR'S SCORE
			LSC—OPP.
Millersville State Teachers	LaSalle Gym	Wed., Dec. 6	76-41
Loyola (Baltimore)	LaSalle Gym	Fri., Dec. 8	73-51
Albright	Reading, Pa.	Wed., Dec. 13	84-37
St. Joseph's	Convention Hall	Sat., Dec. 16	74-53
Gettysburg	LaSalle Gym	Mon., Dec. 18	61-50
Niagara	Convention Hall	Sat., Dec. 23	DNP
W. Kentucky	Convention Hall	Tue., Dec. 26	80-69
Idaho	Atlantic City, N. J.	Wed., Dec. 27	DNP
Temple	Convention Hall	Mon., Jan. 1	60-55
Baldwin-Wallace	Cleveland Arena	Thu., Jan. 4	91-65
Bowling Green	Convention Hall	Sat., Jan. 6	72-62
Duquesne	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Tue., Jan. 9	47-49
Geneva	Beaver Falls, Pa.	Wed., Jan. 10	DNP
St. Joseph's	Convention Hall	Sat., Jan. 13	79-50
Scranton University	LaSalle Gym	Wed., Jan. 17	DNP
N. Carolina State	Raleigh, N. C.	Sat., Jan. 20	66-51
Loyola (Baltimore)	Baltimore, Md.	Thu., Jan. 25	71-59
Temple	Convention Hall	Sat., Jan. 27	67-51
Lafayette	Convention Hall	Sat., Feb. 3	DNP
Miami	Miami, Fla.	Mon., Feb. 5	
		and	
		Tue., Feb. 6	DNP
George Washington	Convention Hall	Sat., Feb. 10	DNP
Georgetown	Washington, D. C.	Tue., Feb. 13	90-58
Muhlenberg	Allentown, Pa.	Sat., Feb. 17	87-60
Manhattan	Madison Square Garden	Tue., Feb. 20	60-55
Cincinnati	Convention Hall	Sat., Feb. 24	76-65
Lafayette	Easton, Pa.	Tue., Feb. 27	DNP
Muhlenberg	LaSalle Gym	Fri., Mar. 2	87-60

NOTES—On the Loyola, Temple, and St. Joseph's statistics, the first score is the score of the first game played against them last year and the second game's score is beside the second game we will play them this year. The same Muhlenberg score from the single game played last year is placed beside both games this year.

LAST YEAR'S TEAM RECORD

	LSC	OPP.
Millersville	76	41
DePaul University	49	41
Loyola (Baltimore)	73	51
Temple	60	55
UCLA	57	62
San Francisco	44	46
Georgetown	90	58
W. Kentucky	80	69
Bowling Green	72	62
Bloomsburg	67	41
N. Carolina State	66	51
Albright	84	37
St. Joseph's	74	53
Temple	67	51
St. Joseph's	79	50
Baldwin-Wallace	91	65
Toledo	55	59
Loyola (Baltimore)	71	59
Muhlenberg	87	60
Manhattan	65	60
Cincinnati	76	65
Gettysburg	61	50
Boston College	83	61
*Arizona	72	66
*Duquesne	47	49

*National Invitation Tournament.

Won 21—Lost 4

OUTLOOK

PLAYING the longest regular season schedule in the history of basketball at LaSalle and against the nation's toughest teams would be a difficult assignment in itself. But couple that with an almost complete re-building job and one begins to grasp the scope of the job facing coach Ken Loeffler this season.

Ken guided the Explorers last year, in his first season at the Blue and Gold's helm, to the city championship and the quarter-finals of the National Invitation Tourney. It was LaSalle's second appearance in three years in this "world series" of collegiate basketball.

6 MISSING

But with June graduation, Ken lost his famous "Super-Six"—the same sextet that spearheaded LaSalle to 82 wins against only 21 losses during the four years they played together. The most serious loss, of course, was that of centerman Larry Foust, 6:09 pivot player who is now with Fort Wayne in the NBA.

Loeffler feels he has a diamond in the rough in the person of soph Jack French, a 6:07 rebounder, who never played high school ball and whom Ken stalked while walking down the corridors at LaSalle last Spring. Jack showed his potential strength in Spring practice but it has only been since the start of the Fall term that he really has come along.

"Already, he's improved 100%," Ken confesses, "but he still needs a lot of polish."

One position that will remain in the hands of last year's proprietor is the guard slot held by Jimmy Phelan. Jimmy, the lone returning starter, has been described in several sports magazines as one of the ablest defensive players in the

East. His 296 points last year gave him an average of almost 12 markers per game which is exceptionally high when one considers he played about only a half per contest because of Loeffler's two-platoon system.

By virtue of Loeffler's vision in using two complete units, he now has a backlog of experienced upperclassmen—Matt Fanning, Newt Jones, Buddy Donnelly, John Grauer, Jack Haggerty and John Gillespie. Battling these veterans for the four vacant berths are five sophs: Norm Grekin, Fred Lehle, John O'Donnell, Jack George and Fred Ley, who lost only one game while playing a 14-contest frosh schedule last season. French didn't play on the frosh squad.

GREATER HEIGHT

Although the tall Foust has graduated, the overall height of this year's squad shapes up much better. The squad average is 6:03 and the starting five Ken has been using in pre-season scrimmages is just a shade under 6:04.

Another important factor in LaSalle's favor this season is the additional year Loeffler has had to work with the players. Last year he won a race against time, trying in a few short weeks, to install an entirely different system than that to which the squad was accustomed.

TOUGH SCHEDULE

Even though LaSalle's road is a long one this year and a tough one, too, if one considers the top Eastern, Mid-Western and Southern teams the Explorers will meet, it could be the best year ever for the Olney Heights lads.

But that would only be if all injuries, military service calls and other unforeseen misadventures are averted.

BUSINESS MEN



Manager
JAMES J. O'CONNOR

Trainer
HARRY BRUNER

Manager
FRANK J. HART

As one of the most smartly-outfitted, healthiest and best provided-for squads in the country, LaSalle players are the first to attribute this high estate to the untiring efforts of the men pictured above. Trainer Harry Bruner, a specialist in prevention, has been singularly successful in keeping injuries to a minimum among Explorer competitors during his two years at LaSalle. Bruner is a student of Frank Wiechec's, head trainer for the Philadelphia National League Baseball Club, and former soccer coach at LaSalle.

Senior manager Frank Hart and his assistant, Jimmy O'Connor, look after all equipment, and handle transportation reservations, hotel room assignments, meal schedules and the many hundreds of other necessary details involved in home games as well as travel, with such rare good humor, that it infects the whole squad and makes for very high morale.

ANTHONY M. CARNEY

No. 8—Center

Sophomore

6'7"



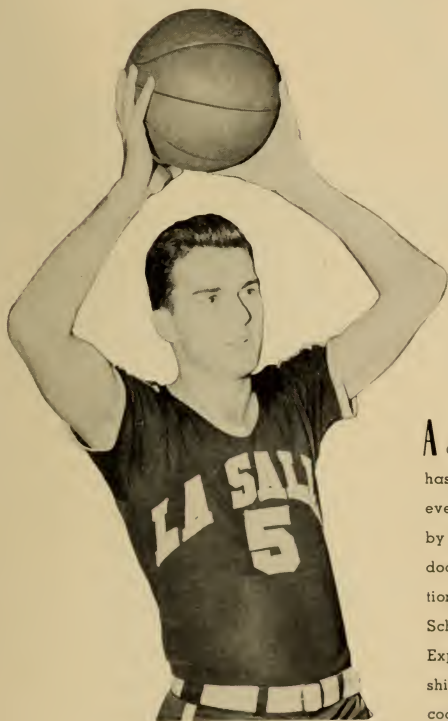
TONY, a big, rugged man under the boards, started slowly with the freshman squad last season and, under Ken Loeffler's careful tutelage, gradually picked up speed until at the end of the year, and in pre-season scrimmages this year, he had developed so tremendously that he was in line for a starting berth. As either a starter or substitute, Tony will give LaSalle good height under the boards.

CHARLES F. DONNELLY

No. 5—Guard

Junior

5'11"



A GREAT little floor general, Buddy has improved tremendously over even last year's fine performances, by virtue of a summer on the outdoor courts. An All-Catholic selection while playing for LaSalle High School, Donnelly sparked the Little Explorers to two city championships during his three years on coach Charlie O'Brien's squad.

MATTHEW A. FANNING

No. 3—Guard

Senior

5'9"

TESTIMONY to the ball-handling and scoring skill of Matt Fanning is the fact that he is one of only two men on the squad under six feet. This fact is exceptionally salient when one considers coach Ken Loeffler's outstanding preference for good, big men. A former All-Catholic nominee from St. Joseph's Prep, Matt is a tremendously hard worker and drives every moment he is in the game.

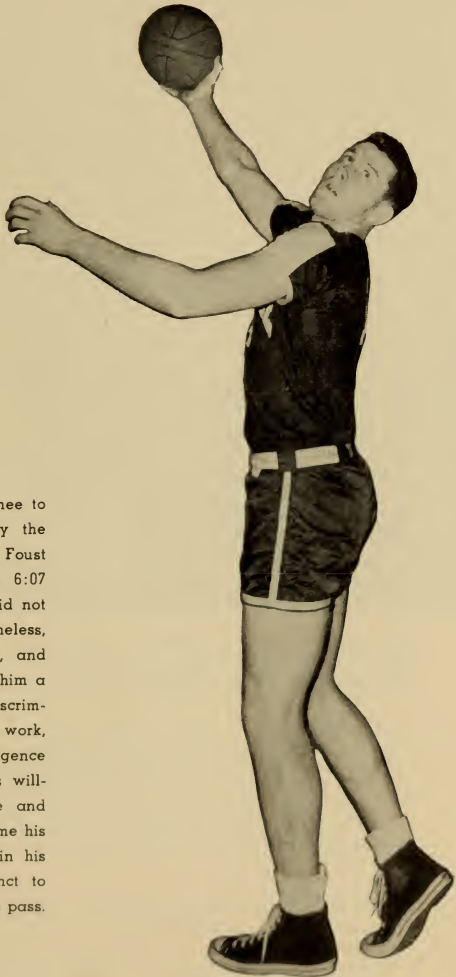


JOHN J. FRENCH

No. 14—Center

Sophomore

6'7"



COACH KEN LOEFFLER's nominee to fill the vacancy caused by the graduation of the great Larry Foust is Jack French, a hustling, 6:07 sophomore. Although Jack did not play high school ball, nevertheless, his drive, fine coordination, and splendid shooting soon won him a starter's berth in pre-season scrimmages. He still needs a little work, but his high degree of intelligence and quick reflexes, plus his willingness to listen to advice and work like a Trojan to overcome his inexperience, should result in his becoming a valuable adjunct to the team before many games pass.

AERIAL VIEW OF LA SALLE COLLEGE CAMPUS



LA SALLE'S EIGHTY-SEVEN YEAR HISTORY IS RICH IN DEMOCRATIC TRADITION

LaSalle College, conducted by the Brothers of the Christian Schools, derives its name from the founder of the teaching brotherhood, John Baptist de la Salle. On April 30, 1951, the three hundredth anniversary of the birth of this educational pioneer will be observed. Often described as "the Father of Modern Pedagogy," he first introduced the system of one teacher instructing a number of students of the same age, all using the same text book. This system, so wide-spread today, made possible schools for the poor and the children of the middle class.

When LaSalle College was founded in Philadelphia in 1863, it was the aim of the Brothers to make available a college education for the sons of families of modest means. A definite need in that direction existed then and does today. The foundation and subsequent expansion of LaSalle is testimony of how well the Brothers and their educational philosophy have been accepted by the community.



ORDER'S FOUNDER

St. John Baptist de la Salle, whose tercentenary is being celebrated this year in Christian Brothers' schools and colleges throughout the world.

College and faculty buildings at LaSalle's present location, Olney Avenue at 20th Street, were completed in June of 1929. Ground was broken for the college gymnasium and preparatory school in May, 1927, and they were completed during the first semester of the school year, 1929-30.

McCarthy Stadium was erected in September, 1937, and in September of 1940, McShain Hall was dedicated. In August, 1947, Leonard Hall, student union building, was opened. Benilde Hall, the newest student classroom building on the campus, was dedicated in September of 1948. A library and dormitories are now in the active planning stage. This building program has permitted the enrollment to increase from a pre-war high of 425 to the present total of 1500. In addition to the day school, the Evening Division boasts of a matriculation of 850 men.

During World War II, without any program of military assistance, the student body at LaSalle dropped to an all-time low of 85. Only by the most demanding sacrifices were the Christian Brothers able to keep open the doors of LaSalle College. However, this was accomplished, and as a direct result, over 2300 young men are pursuing a college education here today.

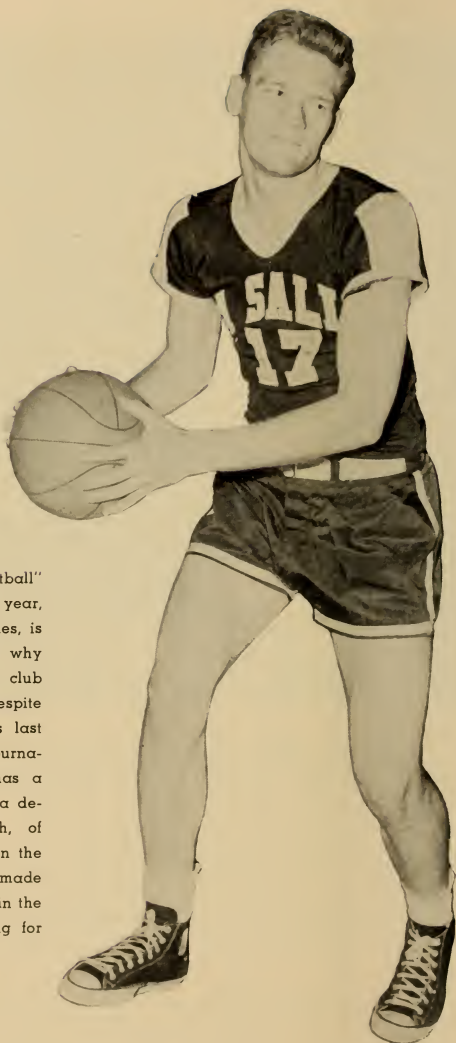
JOHN E. GEORGE

No. 17—Guard

Sophomore

6'2"

THE KID who was "Mr. Basketball" of the freshman squad last year, scoring 250 points in 14 games, is one of the main reasons why coach Ken Loeffler feels his club will be as strong this year—despite heavy graduation losses—as last year's National Invitation Tournament entrants. Jack, who has a variety of fine shots, is also a demon off the boards, which, of course, should help LaSalle in the re-bound department. He made practically every "All" team in the nation's capitol while playing for St. John's of Washington.

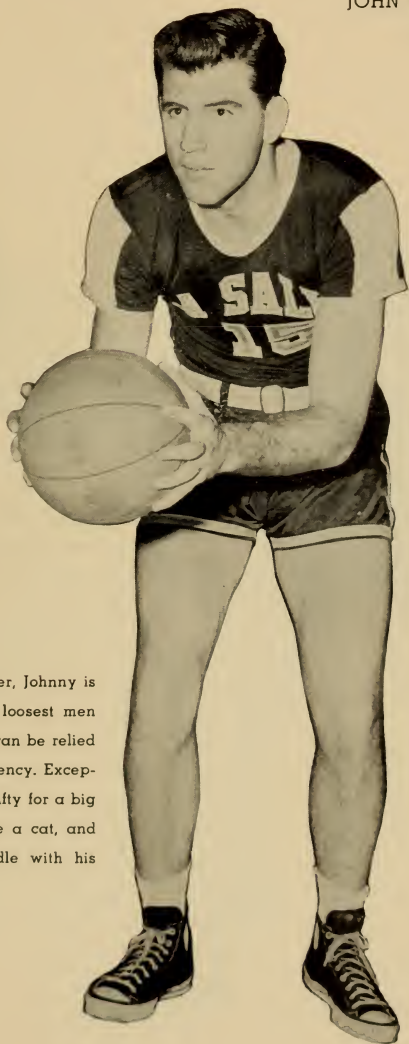


JOHN M. GILLESPIE

No. 15—Forward

Senior

6'4"



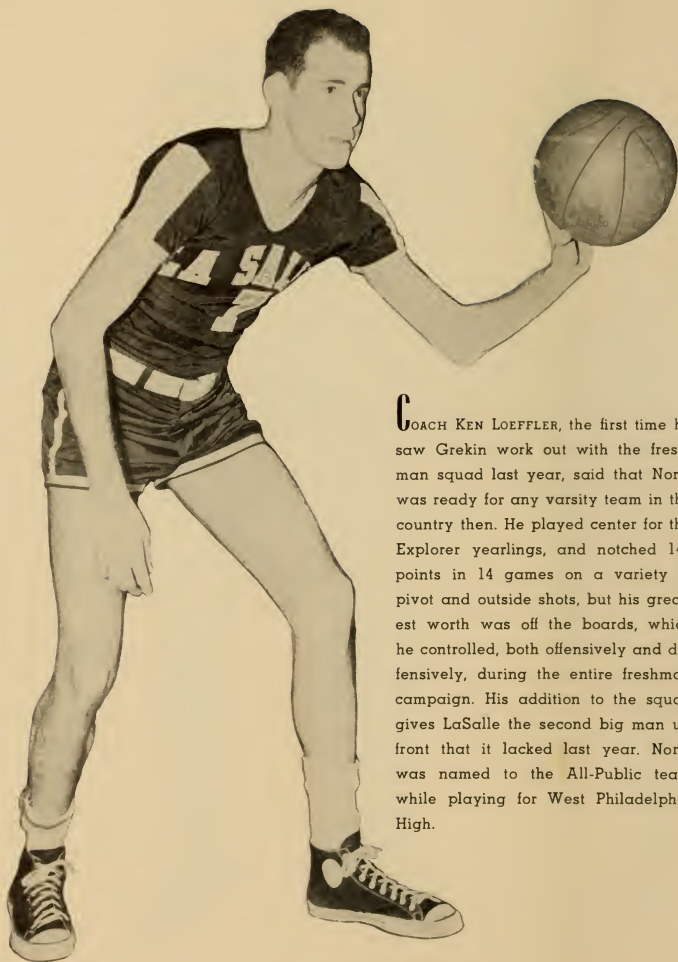
A GREAT team player, Johnny is always one of the loosest men on the squad, and can be relied upon in any emergency. Exceptionally fast and shifty for a big man, he moves like a cat, and can thread a needle with his passing.

NORMAN GREKIN

No. 7—Forward

Sophomore

6'5"



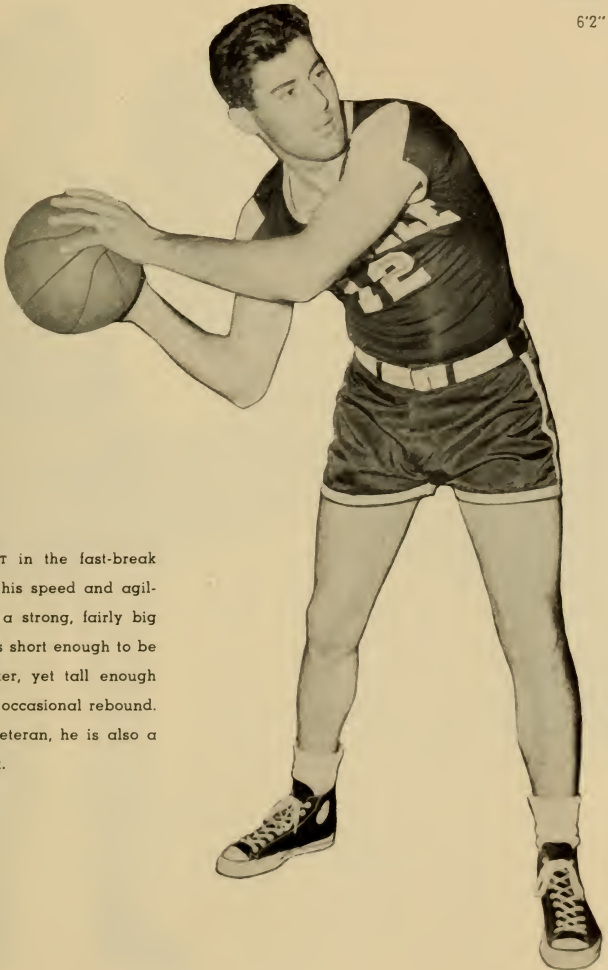
COACH KEN LOEFFLER, the first time he saw Grekin work out with the freshman squad last year, said that Norm was ready for any varsity team in the country then. He played center for the Explorer yearlings, and notched 142 points in 14 games on a variety of pivot and outside shots, but his greatest worth was off the boards, which he controlled, both offensively and defensively, during the entire freshman campaign. His addition to the squad gives LaSalle the second big man up front that it lacked last year. Norm was named to the All-Public team while playing for West Philadelphia High.

JOHN N. HAGGERTY

No. 12—Guard

Senior

6'2"



A SPECIALIST in the fast-break because of his speed and agility, Jack is a strong, fairly big man, who is short enough to be a play-maker, yet tall enough to grab an occasional rebound. An Army veteran, he is also a fine set shot.

G. FRED IEHLE

No. 11—Forward

Sophomore

6'3"

PUBLIC LEAGUE scoring champion, Fred continued last year on the freshman team the same fine record he started while performing for Olney High. His one-hand stabs and jump shots are impossible to defend against, and he gets set in a split second. A lean, tall man, Fred never slows down a moment while on the court, which partially explains his being named to the All-Public team in 1948-49.



J. NEWTON JONES

No. 4—Forward

Junior

6'3"



A TIRELESS workhorse, Newt has such a tremendous love for the game that he can practice for two hours solid without even becoming winded. He drives harder than any two ordinary men, which usually results in a foul shot after he scores his field goal. Another former Public League scoring champion, Newt also was All-Public while playing for Northeast High School three years ago.

FREDERICK W. LEY

No. 19—Guard

Sophomore

6'4"



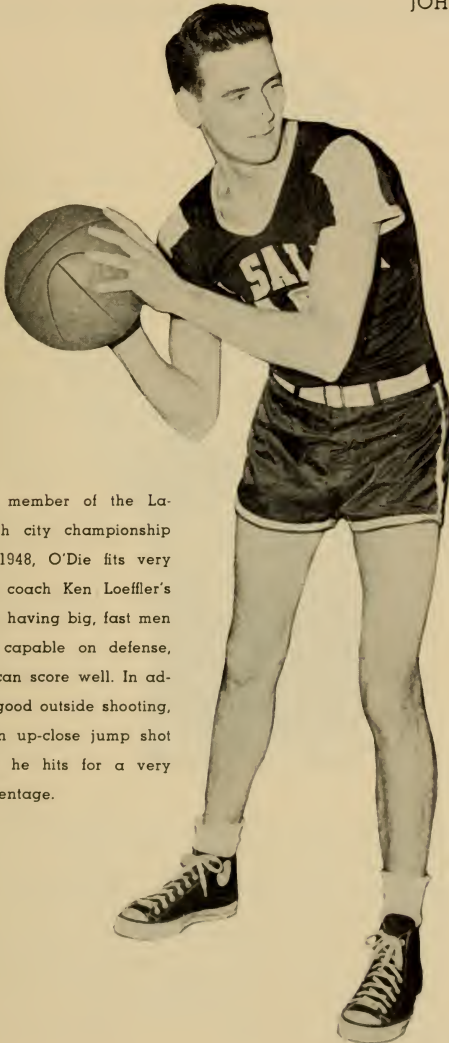
A FINE set shot artist, Fred's cool, collected play is always a steady influence on the team. He claims he gets the biggest kick out of setting up a good screen, and then passing the ball to a teammate for a score, which explains, in part, his popularity on the squad. The other stems from his quiet, unassuming manner.

JOHN T. O'DONNELL

No. 16—Forward

Sophomore

6'3"



ANOTHER member of the La-Salle High city championship team of 1948, O'Die fits very well into coach Ken Loeffler's scheme of having big, fast men who are capable on defense, yet who can score well. In addition to good outside shooting, he has an up-close jump shot on which he hits for a very high percentage.

JAMES J. PHELAN

No. 10—Guard

Senior

6'1"



JIMMY, who has been picked by practically every sports magazine as one of the outstanding players in the East this year, is the sole returning starter from last year's five that won 21 while losing only 4, by an aggregate total of 13 points. He is a great fake, has a good variety of jump and set shots, and a high percentage from the foul line. Jim was third highest scorer on the squad last year, with 296 points in the 25 games in which he played. This average takes on added significance when one considers that he usually played little more than half a game, because of coach Loeffler's two-platoon system. His forte, however, is handcuffing opponents' high scorers, a feat at which he has been singularly successful because, as coach Loeffler puts it, he is never out of position and is a very difficult man to fake.

LAST SEASON'S INDIVIDUAL SCORING

NO.	NAME	POS.	GAMES	GOALS	FOULS	POINTS
10	Phelan, Jimmy	G	25	110	76	296
*17	George, Johnny	G	14	107	36	250
*11	Iehle, Fred	F	14	89	34	212
* 7	Grekin, Norm	F	14	70	52	192
*16	O'Donnell, John	F	11	42	16	100
12	Haggerty, Jack	G	20	36	13	85
4	Jones, Newt	F	25	25	12	62
* 8	Carney, Tony	C	12	25	8	58
*19	Ley, Fred	G	14	24	7	55
15	Gillespie, John	F	18	18	6	42
3	Fanning, Matt	G	9	12	0	24
5	Donnelly, Charles	G	11	2	4	8

*Freshman Team scoring.

FACTS FOR FILLERS

Although never crowned with a championship, the LaSalle College basketball team within the past three years has defeated three of the nation's title winners—Utah, National Invitation Tourney kingpins; Holy Cross, NCAA winners, and Louisville, N.A.I.B. titlist.

* * *

Larry Foust, Fort Wayne rookie star, holds the LaSalle College Field House record of 34 points made against Albright College in 1949.

* * *

During the past four seasons, LaSalle College basketball teams have participated in four post-season tourneys. The Explorers twice went to the National Invitation Tournament, once to the Cincinnati Invitational and once to the Middle Atlantic Conference playoffs.

* * *

Of the 46 basketball teams LaSalle College has played in the past four years, the Explorers are even with or hold the edge on 43. Only 3 have a series advantage.

* * *

Sophomore Fred Iehle is the only married man on the present LaSalle College cage squad.

The LaSalle College gym is equipped with three types of backboards—glass, metal shell and wooden—so that the Explorer dribblers may prepare in practice to play on any type floor.

* * *

LaSalle College's 28-game schedule breaks down into five neutral floor contests, eleven home games and twelve away.

* * *

In winning 21 of 25 contests last year the LaSalle College basketball team scored 1746 points against 1371 for the opponents.

* * *

Although LaSalle College has won 82 of 103 basketball games during the past four seasons, the Explorers have closed each season with a loss.

* * *

Eleven of the 13 members on the LaSalle College basketball team hail from the Philadelphia area. The other two are from Washington, D. C., and Stamford, Conn., respectively.

* * *

Although the LaSalle College cage team lost its giant centerman, 6:09 Larry Foust, by graduation, the Explorer squad will average 6:03, two inches more in height this season than they did last year.

EDITORS:

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John J. Kelly, Director

